

Message Text

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47

ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4287

EXDIS

NORFORN

DEPT PLEASE PASS SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE PFOR XG

SUBJECT: CSCE: "VOLUNTARY BASIS" TEXT FOR MANEUVER CBM

REF: GENEVA 3634

1. SOVIET REPS ON JUN 9 GAVE US FOLLOWING PROPOSED MODIFICATION TO UK TEXT ON "VOLUNTARY BASIS:"

BEGIN QUOTE: CONVINCED OF THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MAJOR MILITARY MANEUVERS FOR THE PROMOTION OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND THE STRENGTHENING OF CONFIDENCE, STABILITY AND SECURITY;

ACCEPTING THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH OF THEM TO PROMOTE THESE OBJECTIVES;

CONVINCED THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS MEASURE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACCEPTED CRITERIA AND MODALITIES IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE REALIZATION OF THESE OBJECTIVES;

RECOGNIZING THAT THIS MEASURE DERIVES FROM POLITICAL DECISION AND RESTS UPON A VOLUNTARY BASIS;

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END QUOTE

2. ONLY SOVIET CHANGES TO ORIGINAL UK PROPOSAL ARE SUBSTITUTION OF WORD "ESSENTIAL" FOR "INDISPENSABLE" IN THIRD PARA, AND ELIMINATION OF WORD "THEREFORE" IN FOURTH PARA.

3. WE EXPECT THAT MOST ALLIES WILL BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT FIRST AMENDMENT, BUT SECOND WILL BE MORE CONTROVERSIAL. ATTITUDES OF ALLIES ON THIS AMENDMENT, AND INDEED ON ENTIRE UK TEXT, WILL DEPEND ON OUTCOME OF CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS ON PARAMETERS. TO DATE ONLY ALLIES THAT HAVE INDICATED ACCEPTANCE OF UK TEXT IN SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE US AND FRANCE. OTHERS HAVE RESERVED COMMENT, AND FOUR ALLIES--CANADA, NETHERLANDS, ITALY AND GREECE--HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY WILL NOT RPT NOT CONSENT TO ANY EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO "VOLUNTARY BASIS" UNTIL THEY ARE SATISFIED WITH SOVIET OFFERS ON PARAMETERS.

4. OUR ASSESSMENT IS THAT THESE DELEGATIONS AND PERHAPS OTHER ALLIES AS WELL WILL BE EXTREMELY RELUCANT TO ACCEPT "VOLUNTARY BASIS" AND COMPLETE MANEUVER CBM UNTIL SOVIETS HAVE MET NEUTRAL TERMS OF 300 KMS, 25,000 MEN AND 21 DAYS. DALE

NOTE BY OC/T: GENEVA 4287 NOT PASSED SECDEF.

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